IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Patent Application of

MAERTENS et al

Serial No.

09/686,964

Filed:

October 12, 2000

For:

IMPROVED IMMUNODIAGNOSTIC ASSAYS USING

REDUCING AGENTS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Atty. Ref.:

2551-97

Group:

1648

Examiner:

Hill

February 10, 2003

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

1. PTO-1449 Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(b)
[within 3 months of filing or prior to 1st Office Action on the merits]

N/C

2.(a) Statement Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(c)
[before Final Office Action or Allowance (requires Rule 97(e)
Statement or Rule 17(p) fee)]

N/C

2 (b) Fee Payment Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(c)
[before Final Office Action or Allowance (requires Rule 97(e)
Statement or Rule 17(p) fee)] \$180.00

2. Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(d)
[after Final Office Action or Allowance (requires Rule 97(e)
Statement and Rule 17(p) fee), but before final fee payment]
\$180.00

The following are submitted in the above-identified application in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98:

4. A list of documents on Form PTO-1449 together with copies of each identified document and a translation or a concise explanation of each non-English language document (such as a Search Report) is

02/12/2003 SDENBOB1 00000009 09686964

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180.00 GP

enclosed herewith.

This paper is submitted in accordance with:

	5.	37 CFR 1.97(b): [within 3 months of filing or prior to 1st Office Action]		
⊠ 6.		37 CFR 1.97(c): [before Final Office Action or Allowance, whichever is earlier]; and		
		a) The re	equired Statement made in item 8 below; <u>or</u>	
	\boxtimes		180.00 fee specified in 37 CFR §1.17(p) for submission of this lation Disclosure Statement is authorized in item 9 below.	
7.		37 CFR §1.97(d): [after Final Office Action or Allowance (requires Rule 97(e) Statement and Rule 17(p) fee), but before final fee payment]; and		
		a) The fe	e (\$180.00) required by 37 CFR §1.17(p) is submitted herewith;	
		b) The re	equired Statement is stated in item 8 below.	
8.		Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e)		
		§1.97(Disclo patent month item c patent	ndersigned attorney of record hereby certifies under 37 C.F.R. e) that each item of information contained in this Information sure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three s prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement (each ontained in this IDS was the first citation of that item by a foreign office in a counterpart foreign application which occurred no more nree months prior to the filing of this IDS); or	
		was ci foreigr Staten contai CFR §	on of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement ted in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart of application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing this ment, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information and in this Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information sure Statement.	
\boxtimes	9.	Please charge all deficiency fees associated with the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement and any other fees applicable to this application to Deposit Account No. 14-1140. An original and one (1) copy of this document are enclosed.		



Respectfully submitted, NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By:

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